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From Saturday December 21. to Tuesday December 24. 1717.

Westminster, December 23.

HIS Majesty came this Day to the House of Peers, and being in his Royal Robes seated on the Throne, with the usual Solemnity, Sir William Oldes, Gentleman-Usher of the Black-Rod, was sent with a Message from His Majesty to the House of Commons, commanding their Attendance in the House of Peers; the Commons being come thither accordingly, his Majesty was pleased to give the Royal Assent to

A Bill for granting an Aid to His Majesty by a Land-Tax in Great Britain for the Service of the Year 1718.

After which the House adjourned to the 13th of January next.

By the KING,

A PROCLAMATION,

Declaring the Rates at which Gold shall be Current in Payments.

GEORGE R.

WHereas the Value of the Gold, compared with the Value of the Silver in the current Coins of this Realm, as paid and received, is greater in Proportion than the Value of Gold is to the Value of Silver in the neighbouring Nations; and the Over-valuation of Gold in the current Coins of this Realm hath been a great Cause of carrying out and lessening the Species of the Silver Coins thereof, which is highly prejudicial to the Trade of this Kingdom: And whereas the Commons in Parliament have by their Address humbly besought us, that we would be graciously pleased to issue our Royal Proclamation, to forbid all Persons to utter or receive any of the Pieces of Gold called Guineas, at any greater or higher Rate than one and twenty Shillings for each Guinea, and so proportionably for any greater or lesser Pieces of coined Gold; which we have graciously condescended unto. Now for and towards remedying the said Evil, we have thought fit, with the Advice of our Privy Council, to issue this our Royal Proclamation, hereby strictly prohibiting all and every Person and Persons whatsoever to utter or receive any of the Pieces of Gold Coin of this Kingdom, commonly called Guineas (which in our Mint were coined only at twenty Shillings each, but have been by our Subjects paid and received at the Rate of one and twenty Shillings and six Pence each) at any greater or higher Rate or Value than one and twenty Shillings for each Guinea, and so proportionably for the Pieces of Gold called half Guineas, double Guineas, and five Pound Pieces; and the other Pieces of ancient Gold Coin of this Kingdom, which by their wearing may be diminished in their Weight, at any greater or higher Rate or Value than as followeth, That is to say, the Piece of Gold now received and paid for three and twenty Shillings and six Pence, to be hereafter received and paid for three and twenty Shillings, and no more; the Piece of Gold now received and paid for five and twenty Shillings and six Pence, to be hereafter received and paid for five and twenty Shillings, and no more; and so proportionably for smaller Pieces of the like Gold Coin: At which Rates and Values we do hereby declare the said respective Pieces of coined Gold to be current. And we do hereby strictly Charge and Command all our loving Subjects whatsoever, that they do not presume to receive or pay the Gold Coins of this Realm at any greater Rates or Values than the Rates and Values aforesaid, upon Pain of our highest Displeasure, and upon Pain of the greatest Punishment that by Law may be inflicted upon them for their Default, Negligence, and Contempt in this Behalf.

Given at Our Court at St. *James's*, the Twenty Second Day of December, 1717. in the Fourth Year of Our Reign.

God save the KING.

St. James's, Dec. 21. Sheriffs appointed by His Majesty in Council for the Year ensuing.

Berks,	Edward Richards *of* Compton, *Esq*;
Bedford,	William Smith, *Esq*;
Bucks,	J. Throckmorton *of* Warrington, *Esq*;
Cumberland,	Robert Lamplugh *of* Dovenby, *Esq*;
Cantab' & Hunt'	Roger Laxon *of* Whittlesea, *Esq*;
Devon,	Francis Shepheard, *Esq*;
Dorset,	Samuel Whetcombe, *Esq*;
Derby,	Sir John Every, *Bart.*
Ebor'	Sir Henry Goodrick, *Bart.*
Essex,	Robert Dennett, *Esq*;
Glouceſter,	Sir Edward Fust, *Bart.*
Hertford,	Poulter Foster, *Esq*;
Hereford,	Henry Jones *of* Manision, *Esq*;
Kent,	John Stevens *of* Chiselhurst, *Esq*;
Lincoln,	Francis Browne *of* Gretford, *Esq*;
Monmouth,	Charles Van, *Esq*;
Northumberland,	Robert Shaftoe *of* Benwell, *Esq*;
Northampton,	William Ash, *Esq*;
Norfolk,	Jn. Howes *of* Mourning Thorp, *Esq*;
Nottingham,	Isaac Knight, *Esq*;
Oxford,	John Travell *of* Swarford, *Esq*;
Rutland,	Thomas Johnson *of* Tinwell, *Esq*;
Salop,	Thomas Hunt *of* Boraston, *Esq*;
Somerset,	Thomas Archer *of* Taunton, *Esq*;
Stafford,	Joseph Amslet, *Esq*;
Suffolk,	Edw. Clarke *of* East Bergholt, *Esq*;
Southampton,	William Stanley *of* Polton, *Esq*;
Surry,	John Vanhatten, *Esq*;
Sussex,	William Peckham *of* Salehurst, *Esq*;
Warwick,	Edward Lewis *of* Ratley, *Esq*;
Worcester,	William Amphlett, *Esq*;
Wilts,	George Speke Petty *of* Box, *Esq*;

South-Wales.

Brecknock,	Charles Penry, *Esq*;
Cardigan,	David Lloyd *of* Lloyd Jack, *Esq*;
Carmarthen,	Owen Edwards *of* Lanmilo, *Esq*;
Glamorgan,	Thomas Popkins, *Esq*;
Pembroke,	Thomas Parry *of* Manarnawen, *Esq*;
Radnor,	Marmaduke Gwyn, *Esq*;

North-Wales.

Anglesey,	William Bodvele *of* Bewmaris, *Esq*;
Carnarvon,	William Wynne *of* Werne, *Esq*;
Denbigh,	John Jones *of* Lwynon, *Esq*;
Flint,	William Brock, *Esq*;
Merioneth,	William Salisbury *of* Rugg, *Esq*;
Montgomery,	Francis Evans, *Esq*;

Venice, Dec. 10. The Earl of Peterborough having been dismissed by the Cardinal Legate of Bologna, arrived here on the 10th Instant. Letters from Naples advise, that Count Daun had ordered the Pope's Nuncio to depart that City in 24 Hours, and the Kingdom in 48, which Order had been punctually observed. This Week the Duke of Queensbury arrived here. Letters from the Captain-General Pisani, give an Account of his being arrived at Corfu with the Fleet, having left Prevesa and Voniza well provided with all Necessaries, and that General Schulenbourg has extended the Contributions beyond Arta.

Berne, Dec. 22. On the 16th Instant a Chapter was held at St. Gall, and M. Rudolphi, a Gentleman of a good Family in Carinthia, was chosen Abbot. As he is reported to be a good natured Man, and of a peaceable Temper, it is hoped that the Choice of a Person of so good a Character will contribute very much to the Accommodation of all Differences between the two Cantons of Zurich and Berne, and the